THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SUKHDEV SINGH DHINDSA): (a) Yes, sir.

(b) IDPL is a sick company referred to the Board for Industrial and Financial Reconstruction under the provisions of Sick Industrial Companies (Special Provisions) Act, 1985. As per the show cause notice issued by the BIFR on 23.02.2001, the BIFR Bench has come to the *prima-facie* conclusion that the company cannot make its net worth positive within a reasonable time after meeting all its financial obligations and that it would be just, fair and in public interest that the company is wound up. BIFR will hear objections/suggestions on 4.6.2001. After failure of the first rehabilitation package approved by the BIFR on 10.2.94, no fully tied up revival scheme could be finalised before 23.2.2001 and placed before the BIFR.

(c) As stated above, the final decision on winding up of IDPL has not been taken and Government is providing non-plan assistance to IDPL for payment of salaries/wages to its employees from October, 1996.

Violation of food laws by foreign importers

*611. SHRI RAMA MUNI REDDY SIRIGIREDDY: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a study sponsored by the Ministry and the Department of Food Processing Industries indicated gross violation of several food laws by foreign importers;

(b) if so, what is Government's reaction in this regard; and,

(c) what steps the Ministry has contemplated or are contemplating in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI NITISH KUMAR): (a) to (c) Department of Food Processing Industries entrusted a study to a consumer organization VOICE to ascertain whether imported packaged foods adhere to the provisions of the Indian Laws particularly with reference to the labeling requirements. The study indicated contravention of labeling provisions, and

inadequate compliance with requirements such as infringement of requirements like indication of the names of the ingredients used in the product or their composition by their weight or volume, non-supply of information like presence or otherwise of permitted natural/ synthetic colours and added flavours and vegetable fat, date of expiry/best before use, non-display of name of the Indian importer, non-display of maximum retail price, and non-indication of the month and year of manufacture, non-provision of lot number.

The Government took a serious view of such infringements and at the instance of Department of Food Processing Industries, the Delhi Government conducted raids in different markets and launched prosecution actions against those found violating the provisions of the Laws. Further, to ensure that the imported packaged foods conform to the Indian Laws, the Directorate General of Foreign Trade have issued Notifications making it mandatory that:—

(i) Import of Meat & Polutry produce will be subject to the compliance of conditions regarding manufacture, slaughter, packing, labeling, quality conditions as laid down in Meat Food Products Order, 1973;

(ii) Import of all such edible/food products, domestic sale and manufacture of which are governed by Prevention of Food Adulteration Act, 1954, shall be subject to all the conditions laid down in the aforesaid Act;

(iii) Import of all primary agricultural products will be subject to a Bio Security and Sanitary—Phyto sanitary Import Permit to be issued by the Department of Agriculture & Cooperation, as per conditions of Plants, Fruits & Seeds (Regulation of Imports into India) Order, 1989.

(iv) All such packaged products which are subject to provisions of the Standards of weights & Measures (Packaged Commodities) Rules, 1977, when produced/packed/sold in domestic market shall be subject to compliance of all the provisions of the said Rules, when imported into India.

(v) Import of alcoholic beverages shall be subject to compliance of

various mandatory requirements as stipulated by various State Governments.

Posts of Youth Co-ordinators in H.P.

†*612. SHRI KRIPAL PARMAR: Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news-item published in the daily "Amar Ujala" dated 31st March, 2001, under the caption, "Is baar doob jayega Nehru Yuva Kendra ka laakhon ka budget";

(b) if so, since when the posts of Youth Co-ordinator in six Youth Kendras of Himachal Pradesh have been lying vacant and the reasons for not filling the same so far; and

(c) who are responsible and to what extent, for not filling these posts, stopping the youth activities in the above districts and allowing the budget to lapse?

THE MINISTER OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS (SUSHREE UMA BHARTI): (a) Government have taken cognizance of the news-item.

(b) and (c) Presently 4 kendras in Himachal Pradesh are without full time Youth Coordinators since 30.9.2000, 22.8.2000, 29.6.1999 and 14.9.2000 respectively. These kendras are Chamba, Hamirpur, Kinnaur and Kullu. A proposal for creation of additional posts of Youth Coordinators is under consideration of Government of India. However, pending sanction, youth activities in those Kendras without a Youth Coordinator, including the four above mentioned Kendras in H.P., are being conducted by the Youth Coordinators of neighbouring Districts by giving them additional charge. This has ensured that the Budgets meant for these Kendras are not allowed to lapse.

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.